

MALMESBURY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1944

MUNDENS, MALMESBURY,

1st June, 1945

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MALMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

—o—

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1944.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

(1) Area ... 58,129 acres

(2) Population

(a) At Census for 1931 ... 8434

Estimated in 1944 ... 9246

(3) Rateable Value ... £41,817

Sum produced by a penny rate, £172

(4) The occupation of your District is agricultural

(5) Vital Statistics

		Total	M	F	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	176	82	94	} Birth Rate 20.4
	{ Illegitimate	13	5	8	

		Total	M	F
Still Births	{ Legitimate	8	6	2
	{ Illegitimate	1	0	1

	Total	M	F
Deaths	107	62	45

Crude Death Rate 11.5

Death of Infants under one year of age

	Total	M	F
Legitimate	5	4	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Infant Mortality Rate 26.4

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence
of childbirth ...

0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

(1) Isolation.

Infectious cases are sent to the Chippenham & Malmesbury Joint Isolation Hospital, which is situated in the Chippenham Rural District. During the past year nine cases were treated there.

(2) Small-Pox.

In the event of a case of small-pox arising in the District, isolation hospital accommodation is provided by the Wiltshire County Council at their small-pox hospital.

(3) Malmesbury and District Hospital (voluntary).

This Hospital is situated in the District, in the Parish of St. Paul Without. There are 24 beds available for medical and surgical cases.

(4) Maternity.

Malmesbury Maternity Home. This contains six beds, three of which are subsidised by the Wiltshire County Council.

(5) Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases a motor ambulance is maintained at the Chippenham and Malmesbury Joint Isolation Hospital, and serves to remove cases from the District.

For accident and non-infectious cases, a motor ambulance is maintained by the Malmesbury Fire Brigade for use in the Malmesbury Urban and Rural Districts.

(6) Laboratory Facilities.

Examinations of pathological specimens are carried out at the Salisbury Infirmary by an arrangement made by the County Council. During the past year 19 such examinations were made.

A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin is kept by the Medical Officer of Health for use by the practitioners of the District.

(7) Professional Nursing in the Home.

The greater part of your District is covered by the various Nursing Associations existing therein.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

(1) Water.

HULLAVINGTON. The work in connection with the laying of mains and installation of pumping plant was completed during the year.

CLEVERTON. A water main was extended from Brinkworth to supply 6 farms and 13 cottages.

CRUDWELL. The scheme postponed on the outbreak of war, was commenced.

During the year 91 visits and inspections have been made in connection with water supplies.

(2) Scavenging.

Household refuse is now collected in all the Parishes of the Rural District.

(3) Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Your Sanitary Inspector reports the following inspections during 1944.

Total number of inspections	...	...	114
Drains, sewers, etc.	...	...	76
Deposits of refuse	...	...	33
Miscellaneous nuisances	...	...	5
Formal action under Sec. 91, Public Health Act, 1875.			
• Number of notices served	...	...	0
Number of nuisances abated	...	...	0

(4) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the District.

(5) Eradication of bed bugs.

No action has been taken as no bed bugs are known to exist in the District.

HOUSING.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1944.

During the year 8 "agricultural" houses have been erected, 2 each in the parishes of Charlton, Norton (Foxley), Minety and St. Paul, Malmesbury Without (Burton Hill).

All are 3-bedroomed houses with sitting room, living room, scullery, bathroom, washhouse and store.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) [a] Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	40
[b] Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	56
(2) [a] Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	40
[b] Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	40
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	27
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in consequence of Council action	0

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—			
(a) By owners	...	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...		0
c. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	0
d. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	0
4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :—			
(a) [1] Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	0
[2] Number of families dwelling therein		...	0
[3] Number of persons dwelling therein		...	0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	0
(c) [1] Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	0
[2] Number of persons concerned in such cases		...	0
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	0

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 374 premises registered under the Milk and Dairies Order (1926).

There are 40 producers of Accredited Milk and 8 producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk in the District.

108 inspections were made under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Bakehouses

Five bakehouses are registered in your District.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1944 the following cases of Infectious Disease were notified :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	6	6	0
Diphtheria	5	3	1
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia	12	3	1
Erysipelas	0	0	0
Measles	12	0	0
Whooping Cough	12	0	0

Opthalmia Neonatorum.

No case was notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of cases notified and deaths from this disease are given in the following table.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10							1	
15	1							
20	3							
25	1	2			1			
30		1						
45								
55								
65	1							
and upwards								
TOTALS	6	3	0	0	1	0	1	0

In my opinion there are no cases of tuberculosis in the District which are non-notified.

Venereal Disease.

Cases of venereal disease can receive free treatment under the County Council scheme at either the Bath or Swindon Clinics.

Air Raid Precautions.

Ten First Aid Points are being maintained in villages in your District. A First Aid Post is established near the Malmesbury and District Hospital.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

REGINALD M. MOORE, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.